

Seton Hall University

eRepository @ Seton Hall

Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies Newsletter

The Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies

2020

IJCS News, Volume 8

The Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.shu.edu/jcs-newsletter>



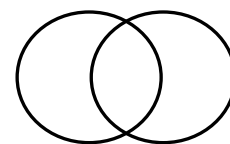
Part of the [Catholic Studies Commons](#), [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Jewish Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

The Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies, "IJCS News, Volume 8" (2020). *Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies Newsletter*. 9.

<https://scholarship.shu.edu/jcs-newsletter/9>


IJCS NEWS



The Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies Annual Newsletter

Volume 8 | 2020

The 27th Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture
Nonviolence:
Intersectional Praxis
for Covid-19 and Systemic Racism
October 22, 2020
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Online Zoom Lecture



Dr. Eli S. McCarthy

Dr. Eli McCarthy was the keynote speaker for the first virtual Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture.

- Page 2



Father Lawrence Frizzell reflects on the life of Rabbi Asher Finkel (1934-2020), who was a great friend and exemplary teacher to the Institute and the M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies program.

- Page 3



The Institute's Director virtually led the discussion, "Areas of Interreligious Dialogue," as part of SOPL's "Special Conversations with Special People" series.

- Page 5



The Catholic Diocese of Bomandi in Nigeria, Africa

Online Learning in Bomandi

The Institute Grants Scholarships to Students in Nigeria

The Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies has a long tradition of providing scholarships to Catholic priests and religious sisters in Africa who have matriculated into the Jewish-Christian Studies (JCST) Graduate Program at Seton Hall University. Through their studies, they are able to gain knowledge that helps them teach conflict prevention, peace-building and reconciliation throughout their communities, which are often plagued by violence, religious persecution and civil unrest.

In years past, students have traveled from Africa to New Jersey to attend the JCST Graduate Program. For the first time, the Institute provided financial support to two Nigerian priests in the Archdiocese of Bomandi so they could take JCST courses online while remaining in their home countries. This online delivery in 2020 not only adhered to Seton Hall's All-Remote Modality during the coronavirus pandemic, but it also had the additional benefit of allowing the priests to continue their local ministry while gaining the valuable lessons they need via the JCST program. The Institute is happy to learn the JCST program is developing an online certificate so that in the upcoming years, all priests and religious sisters can receive the skills they need without any disruption to their ministries and service to others in their communities. We look forward to this new development as we continue to provide scholarships to students in Africa!

27th Msgr. John Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture

Nonviolence: Intersectional Praxis for Covid-19 and Systemic Racism



Eli McCarthy, Ph.D.

The Twenty-Seventh Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture was delivered for the first time remotely on October 22, 2020. This online event featured keynote speaker **Dr. Eli McCarthy**, who presented “Nonviolence: Intersectional Praxis for Covid-19 and Systemic Racism.”

Dr. McCarthy is co-founder of the DC Peace Team, which offers training in nonviolent communication, restorative justice and bystander intervention, along with providing unarmed civilian protection deployments. He has worked in Washington, D.C. primarily with religious advocacy coalitions on U.S. foreign policy and peace-building and has presented at both Congressional and State Department briefings.

In addition to his advocacy work, Dr. McCarthy is also an Adjunct Lecturer in the Program on Justice and Peace at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. Dr. McCarthy’s publications include *Becoming Nonviolent Peacemakers: A Virtue Ethic Catholic Social Teaching and U.S. Policy* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2012) and

Just Peace Ethic Primer: Building Sustainable Peace and Breaking Cycles of Violence (Georgetown University Press, 2020). His essay “Good Practices of Unarmed Civilian Protection: Case Study in Israel and Palestine” is found in *Wielding Nonviolence in the Midst of Violence*, edited by E. Furnari (Books on Demand, 2016).

Dr. McCarthy’s lecture on October 22 focused on the interrelationality and intersection of two waves of destructive conflict that converged in the U.S. during the pandemic: the public health struggle with COVID-19 and systemic racism. He shared a vision of how nonviolence can help 1) identify the ways in which these destructive waves intersect; and 2) provide more sustainable ways to transform aspects of these conflicts together.

We invite all who would like to learn more about integrating a public health approach into conflict resolution negotiations to watch Dr. McCarthy’s recorded lecture, which also includes a Q&A section from participants who attended the live event via Zoom. You can freely access the entire presentation online in the video section of the Institute’s Facebook page by clicking [here](#).

We thank Dr. McCarthy for his insights and for providing strategies we can begin to implement today!

The 28th J.M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture

“Sacred Scripture in a Reflection on the Holocaust”



Gregory Glazov, D.Phil.

Dr. Gregory Y. Glazov (D.Phil. Oxon), Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Immaculate Conception School of Theology, has developed a database for the presentation of Biblical passages in theological, scholarly and popular writings on the *Shoah* (Holocaust).

The works of Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher are included in this research. Dr. Glazov will present a study of a selection of Msgr. Oesterreicher’s confrontations with the vicious anti-Jewish bigotry of the Nazi period and its aftermath. The lecture will be presented via Zoom on **Thursday, October 21, 2021 from 7:30 – 9:30 (EST)**. Please mark this date! More information regarding this event will be posted in early September.



Rabbi Asher Finkel, Ph.D. and the Reverend Lawrence Frizzell, D.Phil. in 2013

Rabbi Asher Finkel, Ph.D. (1934 – 2020) - R.I.P

We have lost a great friend and exemplary teacher

by Rev. Lawrence E. Frizzell, D.Phil.

The Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies and the M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies program have lost a great friend and exemplary teacher when Rabbi Finkel passed away on August 17, 2020. He was a founding faculty member of the Master's program in 1975 and over the decades taught 15 different courses across a great range of topics in Judaism, the Gospels and the Christian-Jewish encounter. Already before coming to Seton Hall, Rabbi Finkel had taught in several universities on the east coast of the United States. Beginning in these years, he was visiting professor at the Maryknoll School of Theology and was invited by this community for lectures in Japan and Kenya. Rabbi Finkel was also in dialogue with Evangelical Christians and wrote chapters for *Evangelicals and Jews in Conversation* (1978) and *Evangelicals and Jews in an Age of Pluralism* (1984).

Rabbi Finkel came from an illustrious line of Jewish educators in Lithuania associated with the Muṣar movement, which focuses on ethical instruction and self-scrutiny in Torah observance. His grandfather migrated to Israel and founded a Yeshivah in Hebron. Asher was born in Jerusalem and came to the United States when his father became a Yeshiva principal in Michigan.

At the age of ten, he was in class with a teacher who misspelled the word PeSah; his reward for pointing out the error was that, thereafter, the teacher spoke to him only in Yiddish!

The thorough education in Rabbinics, with side interests in mathematics and astronomy, served the young scholar well when he studied the New Testament and early Christian and Muslim literature in the doctoral program in Comparative Religion at the University of Tübingen in Germany. He had a phenomenal capacity to recall texts in the original language!

The Institute has made Rabbi Finkel's publications available on [BePress](#) and [Academia](#), along with his radio interviews for WSOU (Seton Hall's radio station 89.5 FM) on [The Kinship of Jews & Christian's iTunes channel](#). I hope that students for generations to come will consult the contribution that Rabbi Finkel has made to the study of the Gospels and Jewish-Christian relations!

In Memoriam

Dr. Eva Fleischner and Dr. Marie Noonan Sabin

by Rev. Lawrence E. Frizzell, D.Phil.

In addition to paying tribute to Rabbi Asher Finkel, Ph.D. (see page 3), I would also like to offer my reflections on two other friends of the Institute who passed away this year.



Dr. Eva Fleischner (1925 – 2020)

Dr. Eva Fleischner

Eva Fleisher was born in Vienna, Austria and was able to move to England in 1938. In 1943 she came to Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She earned her Ph.D. in Religion at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1972. Her publications include *Judaism in German Christian Theology Since 1945: Christianity and Israel Considered in Terms of Mission* (Metuchen, N.J: Scarecrow Press, 1975) *Cries in the Night: Women Who Challenged the Holocaust* Co-edited with Michael Phayer) (Sheed and Ward, 1997), and she was the editor of the proceedings of an important conference at St. John the Divine Episcopal Cathedral in New York City under the title *Auschwitz: Beginning of a New Era?*

(New York: KTAV 1977). In 1999 Dr. Fleischner was invited to join the group that assessed the eleven volumes of the Vatican Archives, *Actes et Documents du Saint Siège relatifs à la Seconde Guerre Mondiale*, assembled by Robert Graham and Pierre Blet.

Dr. Fleischner was Professor in the Philosophy and Religion Department of Montclair State College and was a friend and collaborator with the Institute's Founding Director, Monsignor John Oesterreicher. Her biography by Herbert S. Heaverich is entitled *In Search of the Sacred: Dr. Eva Fleischner, a Pioneer Catholic Theologian Whose Search Led Her to Leadership in the Ongoing Process of Ending Catholic-Christian Anti-Judaism* (Bloomington : 1st Books Library, 2003).



Dr. Marie Noonan Sabin (1932 - 2020)

Marie Noonan Sabin

Dr. Marie Noonan Sabin passed away on October 18, 2020 at the age of 88. She and her husband, Bill, were friends of Msgr. Oesterreicher and she was a member of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Judaic-Christian Studies in the 1980s.

Dr. Sabin was a biblical scholar deeply engaged in the study of Teilhard de Chardin and in the biblical Wisdom tradition. She held a doctorate in English from Yale University and a Master of Arts in Theology from Union Theological Seminary. She taught English at Vassar, Barnard and Douglass Colleges and the Gospel of Mark at Bangor Theological Seminary.

Dr. Sabin's publications include *Reopening the Word: Reading Mark as Theology in the Context of Early Judaism* (Oxford University Press, 2002), *The Gospel According to Mark* (Liturgical Press, 2006) and *Evolving Humanity and Biblical Wisdom: Reading Scripture through the Lens of Teilhard de Chardin* (Liturgical Press, 2018) .

May their souls rest in peace!

Our Radio Program Resumes Broadcasting

The Kinship of Catholics & Jews

Until the recent pandemic, the IJCS's radio program, *The Kinship of Catholics and Jews*, has been airing without interruption since its debut on WSOU 89.5 FM in 1990. Moderated by IJCS Director, the Rev. Dr. Lawrence E. Frizzell, the show promotes the shared values of Christians and Jews and features a wide variety of special guests.

Father Frizzell had to cease his radio interviews in March of this year when the WSOU radio station, which is located on Seton Hall University's South Orange campus, temporarily halted all in-station interviews and D.J. broadcasting in response to COVID-19. Broadcasting of *The Kinship of Catholics and Jews* resumed on September 13, 2020 when Father Frizzell began recording his interviews remotely using Zoom. This show featured Father Frizzell's interview of Dr. Johannes Morsink, Professor Emeritus of political philosophy at Drew University, about his recent book, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Holocaust: An Endangered Connection* (Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2019).

We are pleased to once again invite you to listen to our program, *The Kinship of Catholics and Jews*, every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. on WSOU 89.5 FM. If you miss a show, you can listen anytime to the podcast on *The Kinship's* iTunes channel [here](#).



Areas of Interreligious Dialogue

Father Lawrence Frizzell leads a discussion for virtual event



This woodcut carved by Johann von Armsheim (1483) portrays a disputation between Christian and Jewish scholars (Soncino Blaetter, Berlin, 1929. Jerusalem, B. M. Ansbacher Collection).

On December 18, 2020 the Institute's Director, the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Frizzell, virtually led the discussion, "Areas of Interreligious Dialogue," as part of the South Orange Library's *Special Conversations with Special People* series. The purpose of Father Frizzell's presentation was to outline how people with different religions and cultural backgrounds can work together to build up genuine peace in the world.

Drawing from several Church documents, Fr. Frizzell gave participants specific, tangible ways they can incorporate the following four forms of interreligious dialogue into their communities:

- a) **The dialogue of life**, where people strive to live in an open and neighborly spirit, sharing their joys and sorrows, their human problems and preoccupations;
- b) **The dialogue of action**, in which Christians and others collaborate for the integral development and liberation of people;
- c) **The dialogue of theological exchange**, where specialists seek to deepen their

their understanding of their respective religious heritages and to appreciate each other's spiritual values; and

d) **The dialogue of religious experience**, where persons, rooted in their own religious traditions, share their spiritual riches, for instance with regard to prayer and contemplation, faith and ways of searching for God or the Absolute.

For those interested in learning more, please see the 1984 document of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, entitled "[Dialogue and Proclamation](#)."



Scholarships

While 2020 proved to be a challenging year, we are grateful for the technical advances that allowed Seton Hall University to offer uninterrupted online delivery of courses in the Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program. As a result, we were able to provide scholarships to students in the U.S. and in Africa as they continued their studies during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Make a Donation Today

Please consider supporting the mission of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies by making a donation today. Your gift will help us expand our global reach to educators in need as they work to promote interfaith understanding, collaboration and goodwill throughout their communities, schools and broader communities.

All donations are tax deductible and may be sent to:

Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies

Attention: Lawrence Frizzell

400 South Orange Avenue

South Orange, NJ 07079

For more information, please contact the Reverend Dr. Lawrence Frizzell directly through email at lawrence.frizzell@shu.edu or by phone at (973) 761-9751.

Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies

400 South Orange Avenue

South Orange, NJ 07079

(973) 761-9751

Advisory Board

Michele Dahl, Ed.D.

Elizabeth V. Halpin, M.A.

M. Thérèse Liddy, M.A.

Rev. Msgr. Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.

Sr. Alice Swartz, R.S.M., Ph.D.

Gerald Wolf, Ed.D.

Staff

Rev. Lawrence E. Frizzell, D. Phil.

Director, Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies

Director, Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate

Program at Seton Hall University

lawrence.frizzell@shu.edu

Jay Wolferman, M.A.

Assistant to the Director

jay.wolferman@shu.edu

Follow and connect with us

